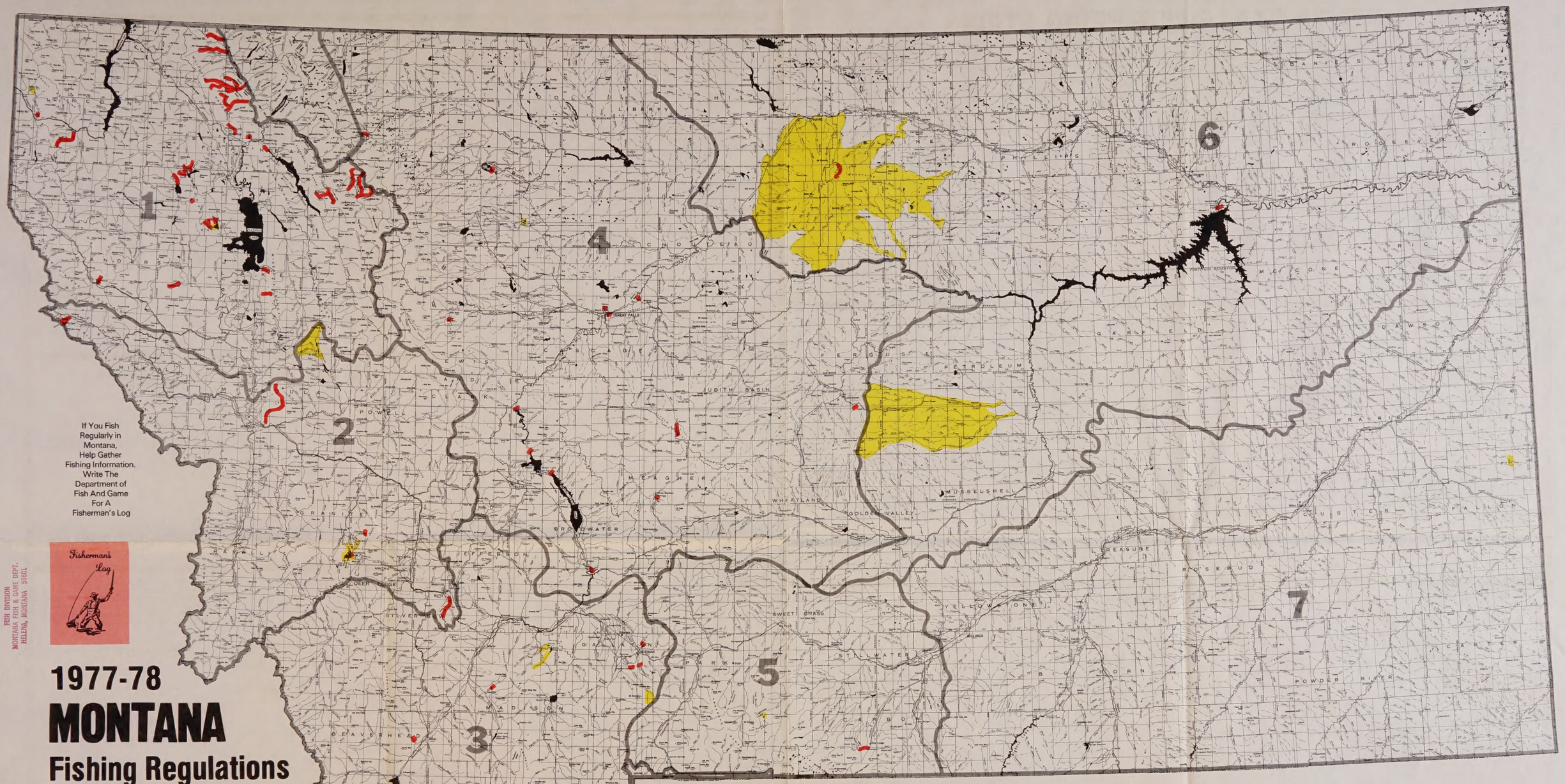


If You Fish Regularly in Montana, Help Gather Fishing Information. Write The Department of Fish And Game For A Fisherman's Log

Fisherman's Log

FISH DIVISION
MONTANA FISH & GAME DEPT.
HELENA, MONTANA 59601

1977-78
MONTANA
Fishing Regulations

May 21, 1977 through May 19, 1978

The accompanying map is an aid only. Regulations and legal descriptions of fishing districts follow in print.

By order of the Montana Fish and Game Commission, the following dates and regulations for the 1977-78 fishing season are adopted.

Montana Fish and Game Commission
Robert F. Wambach, Secretary
January 6, 1977

To be in full force and effect through May 19, 1978. All regulations are subject to change by the Commission.

LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

A fishing license is a permit for the lawful holder thereof to fish for and possess any fish within the state as authorized by fishing regulations.

Residents—Each resident 15 years and older must have a license to fish. Residents 14 years old or younger may fish without a license but must observe limits and all other fishing regulations.

Free fishing permits are available from heads of respective institutions for patients at veterans' administration hospitals and for residents of state institutions other than the state penitentiary. Disabled residents who have a permanent physical or mental condition that prevents them from doing substantial gainful work may get free permits to fish from the Department of Fish and Game upon certification of disability by a doctor licensed to practice medicine in Montana.

Nonresidents—All nonresidents 15 years and older must have a fishing license to fish. Nonresidents 14 years old or younger may fish without a license when accompanied by an adult with a valid Montana fishing license. The total number or pounds of all fish taken by the licensed adult and all persons 14 or younger, accompanied by such licensed adult, shall not exceed one legal limit. However, a nonresident of any age may purchase a nonresident fishing license and be entitled to take a legal limit of fish.

Livingston Enterprise

LEGEND

FISHING DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

COLOR CODES REFER TO COLORS UNDER DISTRICT REGULATIONS

CLOSED TO FISHING ENTIRE YEAR

DATES MORE RESTRICTIVE THAN GENERAL FISHING DATES

BASE MAP PREPARED BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

SEE OPPOSITE SIDE FOR REGULATIONS BY DISTRICT

LICENSE FEES

License Fees Are Not Refundable

RESIDENT FISHING LICENSES

A Wildlife Conservation License is required before any fishing or hunting license may be purchased. You may apply for other licenses at the same time that you apply for a conservation license.

Residents 62 or older need only a Conservation License to fish.

Resident Conservation License	$ 1.00
Resident Fishing License (stamp)	5.00
Resident Sportsman's License (includes Wildlife Conservation License)	35.00

NONRESIDENT FISHING LICENSES

A Wildlife Conservation License is required before fishing licenses may be purchased. You may apply for other licenses at the same time you apply for a conservation license.

Nonresident Conservation License	$ 1.00
Nonresident Season Fishing License (stamp)	20.00
Nonresident Temporary Fishing License (6-day stamp)	10.00
Nonresident Temporary Fishing License (1-day stamp)	2.00
Nonresident Combination Bird and Fish (serves as a prerequisite to application for several Montana big game licenses)	50.00
Nonresident Fish, Bird, and Big Game License (available from Helena, Montana Fish and Game office only) includes an elk tag, deer "A" tag, black bear tag, authorizes hunting of game birds and fishing. Quota of 17,000	225.00

IT IS UNLAWFUL

to transplant or introduce any fish or viable fish eggs into any waters;

to refuse to show one's license upon demand;

to loan or transfer your fishing or hunting license or tags to any person;

to sell game fish except as prescribed by Montana Fish and Game Commission regulations;

to leave or dump any dead animal, fish, garbage or litter in or on any state or private property where public recreation is permitted;

to use any carbide, lime, giant powder, dynamite, or other explosive compounds, or any corrosive or narcotic poison or to have any of the same in one's possession within one hundred (100) feet of any streams where fish are found, for the purpose of stunning or killing fish.

to hire or retain an unlicensed outfitter or guide;

to waste any part of game fish suitable for food.

It is unlawful to operate upon Montana waters a boat which:

is not properly licensed and numbered with registration card carried in boat;

is not carrying equipment required by the Montana Water Safety Law (copies available from Montana Department of Fish and Game);

does not have one serviceable, Coast Guard approved personal flotation device for each passenger. Persons under 12 years old must wear PFD's when boat is in motion and is less than 26 feet long.

1977-78 STATEWIDE REGULATIONS

DAILY AND POSSESSION LIMITS
When weighing fish to determine limits, fish may have entrails removed but must have their heads and tails attached to their bodies.

Daily limit shall mean the numbers or pounds of fish that may be legally taken during a calendar day. No person shall take or possess more than the daily limit of fish unless otherwise specified under district regulations.

Possession limit shall mean the numbers or pounds of fish which may be in one person's possession at any time in any form — fresh, stored in freezers or lockers, salted, smoked, dried, canned or otherwise preserved.

Refer to district regulations for respective daily and possession limits.

SEASONS
All dates given are inclusive dates. Where dates specify an open season, fishing is closed throughout the remainder of the year. An open season is for all species unless otherwise specified.

FISHING HOURS
Fishing is allowed at all hours during open fishing seasons except where waters are posted otherwise.

COLOR CODES

Closed To Fishing All Year

Season More Restrictive Than General Season

GAME FISH
All species of the family Salmonidae (chars, trout, salmon, grayling and whitefish); all species of the genus Stizostedion (sandpike or sauger and walleye pike or yellow pike-perch); all species of the genus Esox (northern pike, pickerel and muskellunge); all species of the genus Microperus (bass; all species of the genus Polyodon (paddlefish); all species of the family Acipenseridae (sturgeon); all species of the genus Lota (burbot or ling); and the species Ictalurus punctatus (channel catfish).

MEANS OF TAKING
Only a single line with hook or hooks, with or without a pole, may be used for fishing unless otherwise specified in district regulations. The pole or line must be in immediate control.

Setlines may be used as provided under district regulations. Setlines are lines that may be unattended. They may include poles and tipups.

A screen or a net not to exceed four (4) feet in length may be used to take sculpins (Cottus) for bait. Otherwise, use or possession of minnow seines, snares, or fish traps is unlawful except as provided under district regulations.

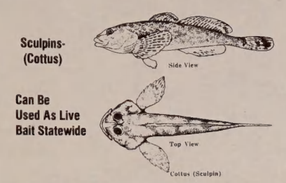
FISH AS BAIT
Carp or goldfish may not be used in any form as fish bait. Other fish may be used dead as bait if they have their heads and entrails removed, or if they have been preserved or frozen.

Sculpins (Cottus) may be used live for bait statewide. Otherwise live fish may not be used for bait except as provided under district regulations.

CLOSED WATERS
All waters operated by the Montana Department of Fish and Game and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as fish hatcheries and rearing ponds shall be closed to fishing at all times. Waters in which the Department of Fish and Game is operating fish traps and other special structures shall be closed to fishing as posted. Certain water supply lakes and streams and hazardous areas are closed as posted.

CHILDREN'S FISHING WATERS
Waters posted as Children's Fishing Waters are closed to fishing during the entire year to persons thirteen (13) years of age and older.

BEAVER PONDS, IRRIGATION CANALS AND DITCHES
Impoundments formed by beaver dams on streams are governed by the same regulations as govern the streams. Man-made irrigation canals and ditches are open the year around unless shown otherwise under district regulations.



NATIONAL PARKS, INDIAN RESERVATIONS AND WILDLIFE REFUGES
Certain waters on National Parks, Indian Reservations and National Wildlife Refuges may have special regulations or permits that apply to their individual areas. Specific information may be obtained from the headquarters of the park, reservation or refuge involved.

USE OF BOATS
The use of boats is prohibited or restricted on many waters. See Boating Regulations available from Montana Department of Fish and Game.

MONTANA OUTDOORS

is a beautiful, full-color outdoor magazine for the entire family. This official publication of the Montana Department of Fish and Game is published six times per year.

Contact the Montana Department of Fish and Game, Helena, Montana 59601 for further information. Free sample copies are available upon request.

Northwestern Montana — FISHING DISTRICT 1

CLARK FORK RIVER DRAINAGE BELOW THE MOUTH OF THE FLATHEAD RIVER, FLATHEAD RIVER AND KOOTENAI RIVER DRAINAGES

FISHING SEASONS

STREAMS

Open third Saturday in May through November, with the following exceptions:

Open Entire Year — Little Bitterroot River below its tunnel, Ashley Creek below Smith Lake, Flathead River below Kerr Dam, Kootenai River, Clark Fork River.

Closed Entire Year — Rogers Lake Spawning inlet. The following tributaries of North Fork Flathead River: Big Creek, Coal Creek and all their tributaries, Whale Creek and its tributaries below Whale Creek Falls, Trail Creek (Yakinikak) and its tributaries below mouth of Thoma Creek. The following tributaries of Middle Fork Flathead River: Granite, Morrison, Lodgepole, Long Creeks and their tributaries. South Fork of Flathead River downstream from Hungry Horse Dam to "Devil's Elbow" as posted. Herrig Creek, tributary of Little Bitterroot Lake. Rand, Green Mountain and Fish Creeks, tributaries of Ashley Lake. Donaldson and Freeland Creeks, tributaries of Lake Mary Ronan. Ashley Creek from the Thompson Falls public water supply intake to its source. Hell Roaring Creek, water supply for Polson, and its lakes from the outlet of the lower lake to its source. Crow Creek and its tributaries above the intake for the Ronan water supply to its source. Hot Springs Creek and its tributaries from Hot Springs public water supply intake to its source. Flower Creek and its artificial impoundments from the Power Dam to its source, excluding the natural lakes. O'Brien Creek from Troy city water intake to a point one-fourth (¼) mile upstream as posted. Haskell Creek and tributaries from the Whitefish public water intake to its source.

LAKES AND RESERVOIRS
Open entire year with the following exceptions:

Closed Entire Year — Cedar Creek impoundment, within one thousand (1,000) feet of Columbia Falls water intake as posted.

Open third Saturday in May through September — Kilbrennan Lake.

Open third Saturday in May through March of the following year — Lake Mary Ronan.

SPECIAL SEASONS

BOW AND ARROW AND SNAGGING — All waters open to angling are open to bow and arrow hunting and snagging nongame fish.

SNAGGING FOR SALMON — Open September 1 through December — All waters except those closed entire year.

SPEAR FISHING — Persons swimming or submerged may take nongame fish with the aid of rubber or spring propelled spears in all waters open to fishing.

December 1 through March of the following year — Northern pike and nongame fish may be taken by spear or gig from Echo Lake.

—SPECIAL SEASONS CONTINUED—

SPECIAL FISHING RESTRICTIONS — LIBBY DAM — Fishing from boats or other floating craft is prohibited in Lake Koocanusa from Libby Dam upstream to the first log boom and in Kootenai River from Libby Dam approximately 500 yards downstream to the David Thompson bridge as posted. Fishing is prohibited from the Libby Dam structure as posted.

EXTENDED WHITEFISH SEASON—Open December 1 through March of the following year — All waters except Kilbrennan Lake and waters closed entire year.

FISH SIZE LIMITS
(Dolly Varden and Sturgeon)

The minimum size of Dolly Varden (bull trout) which may be taken in the North Fork, and Middle Fork of the Flathead River and their tributaries and the South Fork of the Flathead River below Hungry Horse Dam, the main Flathead River above Kerr Dam, Flathead Lake, and that portion of the Swan River below Big Fork Dam shall be no less than eighteen (18) inches long with head and tail attached to body.

It shall be unlawful to keep or possess any sturgeon of the genus Acipenser (white sturgeon) under forty (40) inches or over seventy-two (72) inches in total length.

BAIT
(Use of Live Fish for Bait)

Sculpins (Cottus) are the only fish that may be used live as bait. See "Fish as Bait" under General Regulations.

DAILY AND POSSESSION LIMITS

Unless otherwise specified, the following limits are both daily and possession limits.

Two (2) fish may be taken regardless of weight limit. Each fisherman may take all of the following limits.

1. Brown Trout, Cutthroat Trout, Rainbow Trout, Golden Trout, Lake Trout, Dolly Varden and Grayling — Ten (10) fish or ten (10) fish, whichever is reached first, in any combination.
2. Brook Trout — Ten (10) pounds, no number limit.
3. Bass, Walleye and Northern Pike — Fifteen (15) fish in any combination.
4. Salmon—Except at Lake Mary Ronan. Daily—Thirty-five (35) salmon whether taken by angling or snagging. Possession — Seventy (70) salmon whether taken by angling or snagging.
   Lake Mary Ronan — During regular angling season — Ten (10) salmon daily and possession. During snagging season — Thirty-five (35) salmon daily, seventy (70) salmon possession.
5. Sturgeon — Two (2) sturgeon per calendar year.
6. Whitefish — Thirty (30) whitefish daily and sixty (60) possession.

There is no limit on nongame fish or burbot (ling).

NETS
(Use Of)

Use of nets or traps for catching fish other than sculpins (Cottus) is prohibited. This does not prohibit the use of a landing net for landing hooked fish. A screen or net not to exceed four (4) feet in length may be used to take sculpins (Cottus).

West Central Montana — FISHING DISTRICT 2

CLARK FORK RIVER DRAINAGE (Defined as the Clark Fork River Drainage above the mouth of the Flathead River)

FISHING SEASONS

STREAMS

Open third Saturday in May through November, with the following exceptions:

Open Entire Year — Clark Fork River below Warm Springs Creek in Deer Lodge County, Clearwater River below the Lake Inez fish barrier, Big Blackfoot River below Scotty Brown bridge, Bitterroot River below the Stevensville bridge.

Closed Entire Year — Rattlesnake Creek and tributary streams from the Missoula water supply dam of the Montana Power Company to its source. Basin Creek from the lower Butte water supply reservoir dam to its source, including all reservoirs and tributaries. Silver Creek above Saltese water supply intake.

Open third Saturday in June through November — Clearwater Drainage above the Lake Inez fish barrier.

Open third Saturday in July through October — Stuart Mill Creek, Flint Creek above Georgetown Lake and Hardtla Creek.

LAKES AND RESERVOIRS
Open entire year with the following exceptions:

Closed Entire Year — Fred Burr Lake (Philipsburg water supply) and Georgetown Lake pump station area approximately three hundred (300) feet along the shore and one hundred (100) feet out into the lake as designated by signs and buoys.

Open third Saturday in May through November — Echo Lake.

Open third Saturday in May through October and third Saturday in December through February of the following year — Georgetown Lake.

SPECIAL SEASONS

BOW AND ARROW AND SNAGGING — All waters open to angling are open to bow and arrow hunting and snagging of nongame fish.

SNAGGING FOR SALMON — Open September 1 through November — Georgetown Lake and tributaries and Clearwater Drainage.

SPEAR FISHING — Persons swimming or submerged may take nongame fish with the aid of rubber or spring-propelled spears in all waters open to fishing.

—SPECIAL SEASONS CONTINUED—

EXTENDED WHITEFISH SEASON—Open December 1 through March of the following year — All waters, except waters closed entire year and waters posted as closed to fishing.

SPECIAL ICE FISHING REGULATIONS
Special regulations apply to Georgetown and Browns Lake. Contact the Department of Fish and Game for details.

BAIT
(Use of Live Fish for Bait)

Sculpins (Cottus) are the only fish that may be used live as bait. See "Fish as Bait" under General Regulations.

DAILY AND POSSESSION LIMITS

Unless otherwise specified, the following limits are both daily and possession limits.

Two (2) fish may be taken regardless of weight limit. Each fisherman may take all of the following limits.

1. Brown Trout, Cutthroat Trout, Rainbow Trout, Golden Trout, Lake Trout, Dolly Varden and Grayling — Ten (10) pounds and one (1) fish or ten (10) fish, whichever is reached first in any combination.
2. Brook Trout — Ten (10) pounds, no number limit.
3. Bass, Walleye and Northern Pike — Fifteen (15) fish in any combination.
4. Salmon — Ten (10) fish, except during snagging season when the daily limit shall be thirty-five (35) and possession limit seventy (70). In Georgetown Lake and tributaries the daily limit shall be thirty-five (35) salmon and the possession limit seventy (70) salmon, whether taken by angling or snagging, during the entire open season.
5. Whitefish — Twenty (20) fish daily and forty (40) possession.

There is no limit on nongame fish.

NETS
(Use Of)

Use of nets or traps for catching fish other than sculpins (Cottus) is prohibited. This does not prohibit the use of a landing net for landing hooked fish. A screen or net not to exceed four (4) feet in length may be used to take sculpins (Cottus).

—LIMITS CONTINUED—

Two (2) fish may be taken regardless of weight limit. Each fisherman may take all of the following limits.

1. Brown Trout, Cutthroat Trout, Rainbow Trout, Grayling, Golden Trout and Lake Trout — Ten (10) pounds and one (1) fish or ten (10) fish, whichever is reached first, in any combination.
2. Brook Trout — Ten (10) pounds, no number limit.
3. Bass, Sauger, Walleye and Northern Pike — Fifteen (15) fish in any combination.
4. Whitefish — Twenty (20) fish daily and forty (40) possession.
5. Salmon — Ten (10) fish.

There is no limit on nongame fish or burbot (ling).

NETS
(Use Of)

Use of nets or traps for catching fish other than sculpins (Cottus) is prohibited. This does not prohibit the use of a landing net for landing hooked fish. A screen or net not to exceed four (4) feet in length may be used to take sculpins (Cottus).

Southwestern Montana — FISHING DISTRICT 3

JEFFERSON RIVER, MADISON RIVER AND GALLATIN RIVER DRAINAGES

FISHING SEASONS

STREAMS

Open third Saturday in May through November, with the following exceptions:

Open Entire Year — Gallatin River from Gallatin Gateway bridges to confluence with Missouri River, East Gallatin River below mouth of Bozeman (Sourdough) Creek, Jefferson River, Ruby River below Ruby Dam, Madison River below Ennis Lake, Beaverhead River below Pipeorgan Bridge, Alder Gulch Creek and Dredge Ponds from the mouth to Virginia City, Mill Creek near Sheridan and Missouri River.

Closed Entire Year — Indian Creek from Sheridan city water intake to a point one thousand (1,000) feet upstream as posted. Rattlesnake Creek from each Dillon city water intake to a point one thousand (1,000) feet upstream as posted. Middle Fork Hyalite Creek, Bozeman (Sourdough) Creek and Lyman Creek from the Bozeman city water intakes to a point one thousand (1,000) feet upstream as posted. Madison River from mouth of Squaw Creek to mouth of Wolf Creek.

Open third Saturday in May through February of the following year—Madison River from Hebgen Dam to mouth of Squaw Creek and from mouth of Wolf Creek to Ennis Lake.

Open third Saturday in July through November—East Fork and West Fork of Hyalite Creek.

Open third Saturday in June through November—Norwegian Creek, South Willow Creek and North Willow Creek downstream from the Highway 287 bridges at Harrison to Willow Creek Reservoir.

LAKES AND RESERVOIRS
Open entire year with the following exceptions:

Open third Saturday in May through February of the following year — Wade Lake.

Open third Saturday in June through November — Hidden Lake, Goose Lake and Otter Lake.

SPECIAL SEASONS

BOW AND ARROW AND SNAGGING — All waters open to angling are open to bow and arrow hunting and snagging of nongame fish.

SPEAR FISHING — Persons swimming or submerged may take nongame fish and burbot (ling) with the aid of rubber or spring-propelled spears in all waters open to fishing.

—SPECIAL SEASONS CONTINUED—

EXTENDED WHITEFISH SEASON—Open December 1 through the third Saturday in May — All waters, except waters closed entire year.

BROOK TROUT — The Big Hole River Drainage above Divide Dam shall be open to fishing for brook trout the entire year, except that portion of the Big Hole River from the bridge at Wisdom to Divide Dam.

BOAT FISHING RESTRICTION

Fishing from boats or other floating craft is prohibited in the Madison River from Quake Lake to McAtee Bridge.

BAIT
(Use of Live Fish for Bait)

Sculpins (Cottus) are the only fish that may be used live as bait. See "Fish as Bait" under General Regulations.

DAILY AND POSSESSION LIMITS

Unless otherwise specified, the following limits are both daily and possession limits.

—LIMITS CONTINUED—

Two (2) fish may be taken regardless of weight limit. Each fisherman may take all of the following limits.

1. Brown Trout, Cutthroat Trout, Rainbow Trout, Grayling, Golden Trout and Lake Trout — Ten (10) pounds and one (1) fish or ten (10) fish, whichever is reached first, in any combination.
2. Brook Trout — Ten (10) pounds, no number limit.
3. Bass, Sauger, Walleye and Northern Pike — Fifteen (15) fish in any combination.
4. Whitefish — Twenty (20) fish daily and forty (40) possession.
5. Salmon — Ten (10) fish.

There is no limit on nongame fish or burbot (ling).

NETS
(Use Of)

Use of nets or traps for catching fish other than sculpins (Cottus) is prohibited. This does not prohibit the use of a landing net for landing hooked fish. A screen or net not to exceed four (4) feet in length may be used to take sculpins (Cottus).

Central Montana — FISHING DISTRICT 4

UPPER MISSOURI RIVER, UPPER MUSSELSHELL RIVER, DEARBORN RIVER, SUN RIVER, TETON RIVER, MARIAS RIVER, ST. MARY RIVER AND UPPER MILK RIVER DRAINAGES (Defined as the Missouri River and tributary drainages from Three Forks to and including the Marias River, tributary drainages of the Missouri River on the south side from the Marias to but not including the Musselshell Drainage, the Musselshell River and tributary drainages above the bridge at Lavina, the St. Mary River and tributary drainages and the Milk River and tributary drainages in Glacier County)

FISHING SEASONS

STREAMS

Open third Saturday in May through November, with the following exceptions:

Open Entire Year — Missouri River, Sun River below Gibson Dam, Pondera Coulee, Judith River below its confluence with Big Spring Creek, Cut Bank Creek below Blackfeet Indian Reservation Boundary, Belt Creek below bridge at Riceville, Smith River below the confluence of North and South Forks Smith River, Big Spring Creek near Lewistown, Dearborn River and that portion of North Fork Dearborn River below the high bridge on Highway 434, Teton River below U.S. Highway 89, Marias River, Musselshell River below the bridge at Barber.

Closed Entire Year—Midvale Creek and the intake reservoir from the intake of the Glacier Park Hotel Company water supply to the Glacier Park Boundary; O'Brien Creek above the Neihart public water intake; Willow Creek and its tributaries from the White Sulphur Springs public water intake to its source; Missouri River immediately below Morony Dam, and Canyon Ferry Dam as posted; Missouri River 175 feet below Holter Dam; that portion of Giant Springs at Great Falls enclosed by the concrete walks and masonry work; Big Spring Creek in Fergus County at the state fish hatchery as posted.

LAKES AND RESERVOIRS
Open entire year with the following exceptions:

Closed Entire Year — A portion of Lake Frances around the Conrad water supply outlet as posted, Sheffels Pond located in Cascade County, approximately two hundred (200) yards of Nilan Reservoir's shoreline as posted, Hauser Dam structure and adjacent water as posted, and Toston Dam structure as posted.

—LAKES & RESERVOIRS CONT.—

Open second Saturday in June through February of the following year — Eyraud (Arod) Lakes.

SPECIAL SEASONS

BOW AND ARROW AND SNAGGING — All waters open to angling are open to bow and arrow hunting and snagging of paddlefish and nongame fish.

SETLINE FISHING — Anglers may use up to six (6) unattended setlines with up to six (6) hooks per line in the following waters:

Open Entire Year — Lake Frances, except portion closed as posted, Missouri River from bridge at Cascade to Black Eagle Dam, Missouri River below Morony Dam, Teton River below U.S. Highway 89, Marias River in its entirety (including Tiber Reservoir), Split Rock Lake, Pishkun Reservoir.

Open December 1 through March of the following year — Cut Bank Creek below Cut Bank city water intake dam. Missouri River and mainstem impoundments from and including Canyon Ferry Reservoir to Holter Dam (including Lake Helena and Helena Valley Reservoir). Setline fishing from shore prohibited on Holter and Hauser Reservoirs and Lake Helena.

Open second Saturday in June through February of the following year — Eyraud (Arod) Lakes.

SNAGGING FOR SALMON — Open September 1 through January of the following year — Helena Valley Reservoir, Pishkun Reservoir, Bynum Reservoir, including inlet and outlet streams; Lake Frances, including inlet canal and outlet stream, except portion closed as posted.

SPEAR FISHING — Persons swimming or submerged may take nongame fish and burbot (ling) with the aid of rubber or spring-propelled spears in all waters open to fishing.

—SPECIAL SEASONS CONTINUED—

Open December 1 through February of the following year— Northern pike and nongame fish by spear or gig: Eyraud (Arod) Lakes.

Open December 1 through March of the following year— Northern pike and nongame fish by spear or gig: Tiber Reservoir, Pishkun Reservoir, Split Rock Lake and Lake Frances except portion closed as posted.

EXTENDED WHITEFISH SEASON—Open December 1 through March of the following year — All waters, except Eyraud (Arod) Lakes, and waters closed entire year.

CHILDREN'S FISHING WATERS — The following waters as posted, will be open to persons twelve (12) years of age and under from the third Saturday in May through November — Spring Creek from the Milwaukee Bridge to Charles Fellows fence below Choteau, Elk Creek (South Fork Sun River) from Auchard Bridge to Boone Bridge in the town of Augusta, and Fairgrounds Pond, Helena.

SPECIAL ICE FISHING REGULATIONS
Special regulations apply to Lake Frances, Deadman's Basin Reservoir, Hauser Lake and Lake Helena. Contact the Department of Fish and Game for details.

BAIT
(Use of Live Fish for Bait)

The use of sculpins (Cottus) is allowed in all waters. Other nongame fish (except carp or goldfish) may be used in the Missouri River downstream from Morony Dam in the Marias River including Tiber Reservoir and in all streams and drainage canals of the Muddy Creek drainage near Vaughn.

DAILY AND POSSESSION LIMITS

Unless otherwise specified, the following limits are both daily and possession limits.

Two (2) fish may be taken regardless of weight limit. Each fisherman may take all of the following limits.

1. Brown Trout, Cutthroat Trout, Rainbow Trout, Golden Trout, Lake Trout and Grayling — Ten (10) pounds and one (1) fish or ten (10) fish, whichever is reached first, in any combination.
2. Brook Trout — Ten (10) pounds, no number limit.
3. Bass, Sauger, Walleye — Fifteen (15) fish in any combination.
4. Northern Pike — Five (5) fish.
5. Salmon — Ten (10) fish except during snagging seasons when the daily limit shall be thirty-five (35) fish and the possession limit seventy (70) fish.
6. Whitefish — Twenty (20) whitefish daily and forty (40) in possession, except a daily limit of thirty (30) whitefish and a possession limit of sixty (60) whitefish are allowed from the Missouri River between Holter Dam and Black Eagle Dam.
7. Paddlefish — Two (2) fish.

There is no limit on nongame fish, catfish, burbot (ling), shovelnose sturgeon or pallid sturgeon.

NETS
(Use Of)

In waters where use of live fish other than sculpins (Cottus) is allowed for bait, nongame species may be taken:

1. With seines not to exceed twelve (12) feet in length and four (4) feet in width; or
2. With minnow traps not to exceed eighteen (18) inches in length and ten (10) inches in diameter.

A screen or net not to exceed four (4) feet in length may be used to take sculpins (Cottus).

South Central Montana — FISHING DISTRICT 5

UPPER YELLOWSTONE RIVER DRAINAGE (Defined as the Yellowstone River Drainage above and including Clarks Fork Yellowstone River)

FISHING SEASONS

STREAMS

Open third Saturday in May through November, with the following exceptions:

Open Entire Year — Clarks Fork Yellowstone River, Yellowstone River and Bluewater Creek, Boulder River, Stillwater River, Rock Creek and Red Lodge Creek below Cooney Dam.

Closed Entire Year — West Fork of Rock Creek from the Red Lodge city water intake to the mouth of Washoe Creek as posted.

LAKES AND RESERVOIRS
Open Entire Year with the following exception: open August 1 through April 30 of the following year — Lightning Lake.

SPECIAL SEASONS

BOW AND ARROW AND SNAGGING — All waters open to angling are open to bow and arrow hunting and snagging of nongame fish.

—SPECIAL SEASONS CONTINUED—

SNAGGING FOR SALMON — September 1 through January of the following year — Dailey Lake.

SETLINE FISHING — Anglers may use up to six (6) unattended setlines with up to six (6) hooks per line in the following waters:

Open Entire Year — Clarks Fork Yellowstone River below the bridge at Bridger.

SPEAR FISHING — Persons swimming or submerged may take nongame fish with the aid of rubber or spring-propelled spears in all waters open to fishing.

EXTENDED WHITEFISH SEASON—Open December 1 through March of the following year. All waters except waters closed entire year.

OTHER — In the lakes of the Beartooth and Absaroka Mountain areas of Carbon, Stillwater, Sweet Grass and Park Counties the daily and possession limit on golden, cutthroat, rainbow, brown and lake trout, and grayling shall be ten (10) pounds and one (1) fish (no number limit), except for Cooney Reservoir, West Rosebud, East Rosebud, Emerald, Crater, Dailey, Wild Bill, Kersey, Rock Island, No Ketchum, Blue, Picket Pin, Greenough Lakes and Lake Abundance where the limit on these species shall be ten (10) pounds and one (1) fish not to exceed ten (10) fish.

BAIT
(Use of Live Fish for Bait)

Sculpins (Cottus) are the only fish that may be used live as bait. See "Fish as Bait" under General Regulations.

DAILY AND POSSESSION LIMITS

Two (2) fish may be taken regardless of weight limit. Each fisherman may take all of the following limits.

1. Brown Trout, Cutthroat Trout, Rainbow Trout, Golden Trout, Lake Trout and Grayling — Ten (10) pounds and one (1) fish or ten (10) fish, whichever is reached first, in any combination.

—DAILY & POSSESSION LIMITS CONT.—

2. Brook Trout — Ten (10) pounds, no number limit.
3. Walleye, Sauger, Bass and Northern Pike — Fifteen (15) fish in any combination.
4. Salmon — Ten (10) fish, except during the snagging season when the daily limit shall be thirty-five (35) fish and possession limit seventy (70) fish.
5. Whitefish — Thirty (30) whitefish daily, and sixty (60) whitefish possession.
6. Paddlefish — Two (2) fish.

There is no limit on nongame fish, catfish, burbot (ling), shovelnose sturgeon or pallid sturgeon.

NETS
(Use Of)

Use of nets or traps for catching fish other and sculpins (Cottus) is prohibited. This does not prohibit the use of a landing net for landing hooked fish. A screen or a net not to exceed four (4) feet in length may be used to take sculpins (Cottus).

Northeastern Montana — FISHING DISTRICT 6

LOWER MISSOURI RIVER, LOWER MUSSELSHELL RIVER and MILK RIVER DRAINAGES (Defined as the Missouri River Drainage below the Musselshell River, the Missouri River and all drainages from the north which enter the Missouri River between the Marias River and the Musselshell River, the Milk River Drainage outside of Glacier County, and Musselshell River and drainage below the bridge at Lavina)

FISHING SEASONS

ALL WATERS

Open Entire Year with the following exceptions:

Closed Entire Year — Wind Creek from Clear Creek road crossing to its source, excluding Ross Reservoir. Missouri River below the outlet tunnels of Fort Peck Dam as posted.

Open third Saturday in May through November — Streams south of Highway 2 which originate in the Bearpaw Mountains, Flatwillow Creek and tributaries and McDonald Creek and tributaries in Petroleum and Fergus Counties.

SPECIAL SEASONS

BOW AND ARROW AND SNAGGING — All waters open to angling are open to bow and arrow hunting and snagging of paddlefish and nongame fish.

SETLINE FISHING — Anglers may use up to six (6) unattended setlines with up to six (6) hooks per line in the following waters:

Open Entire Year — Missouri River and dredge cuts (excluding the Dredge Cut Trout Pond), Musselshell River below the bridge at Lavina, Milk River and its impoundments (including Fresno Reservoir), Lone Tree Creek and its impoundments, Poplar River, Redwater River, Fort Peck Reservoir, (excluding Flat Lake, and the Big Dry Arm of Fort Peck Reservoir south from and including Sand Arroyo and Box Elder Creek Bays), Ester Reservoir, McNeil Slough, Medicine Lake, and Nelson Reservoir. In Nelson Reservoir each setline (including jugs) must be clearly marked with owner's name and address.

Open December 1 through March of the following year — All lakes and reservoirs.

Open April 1 through November — Anglers may use up to two (2) unattended setlines with not more than two (2) hooks per line in the following waters: The Big Dry Arm of Fort Peck Reservoir south from and including Sand Arroyo and Box Elder Creek Bays. Setlines shall not be suspended from free-floating jugs or other devices. This does not prohibit the use of floats or bobbers attached to poles or bank lines.

SPEAR FISHING — Persons swimming or submerged may take fish with the aid of rubber or spring-propelled spears as follows:

Nongame fish — all waters open to fishing.

Game fish, except Bass — Fort Peck and Nelson Reservoirs.

Open December 1 through March of the following year — Northern Pike, Walleye, Sauger and nongame fish may be taken by spear or gig from all waters.

BAIT
(Use of Live Fish for Bait)

The use of sculpins (Cottus) is allowed in all waters. Other nongame fish (except carp or goldfish) may be used in the

— BAIT CONTINUED —

Dredge Cut Trout Pond; Kuester Reservoir in Richland Co.; Cole Ponds, Frenchman Reservoir, McChesney Reservoir, Nelson Reservoir, Little Warm Reservoir, Ester Reservoir and McNeil Reservoir in Phillips Co.; Killenbeck Reservoir in Daniels Co.; Engstrom Reservoir, Raymond Reservoir & Medicine Lake in Sheridan Co.; Bainville Railroad Ponds in Roosevelt Co.; Fort Peck Reservoir (excluding Flat Lake), Musselshell River below the bridge at Lavina, Milk River and its impoundments below Fresno Reservoir, Lone Tree Creek and its impoundments, and all streams and rivers, except the Milk River and its tributaries above Fresno Reservoir and streams south of Highway 2 which originate in the Bearpaw Mountains, and Flatwillow Creek and tributaries and McDonald Creek and tributaries in Petroleum and Fergus Counties.

DAILY AND POSSESSION LIMITS

Unless otherwise specified, the following limits are both daily and possession limits.

Each fisherman may take all of the following limits.

1. All Trout, Salmon, Grayling and Whitefish — Ten (10) fish in any combination.
2. Walleye and Sauger — Ten (10) fish in any combination.
3. Northern Pike — Five (5) fish.
4. Paddlefish — Two (2) fish.

—LIMITS CONTINUED—

There is no limit on nongame fish, bass, catfish, burbot (ling), shovelnose sturgeon or pallid sturgeon.

NETS
(Use Of)

A screen or net not to exceed four (4) feet in length may be used to take sculpins (Cottus).

Hoop Nets — Hoop nets without wings or leads may be used to take nongame fish, catfish, burbot (ling), shovelnose sturgeon and pallid sturgeon in the Milk River downstream from Highway 2 bridge below Dodson Dam except from Vandalia Dam to a point one-quarter (¼) mile downstream in the Missouri River below the mouth of the Milk River. Each net must be clearly marked with the owner's name and address.

Minnow Seines and Traps — In all waters where the use of live fish other than sculpins (Cottus) is allowed for bait, nongame species may be taken:

1. With a seine not to exceed twelve (12) feet in length and four (4) feet in width; or
2. With minnow traps not to exceed eighteen (18) inches in length and ten (10) inches in diameter.

Southeastern Montana — FISHING DISTRICT 7

LOWER YELLOWSTONE RIVER and LITTLE MISSOURI RIVER DRAINAGES (Defined as the Yellowstone River Drainage below and excluding the Clarks Fork Yellowstone River, and all other drainages in Montana southeast of the Yellowstone River)

FISHING SEASONS

ALL WATERS
Open entire year with the following exceptions:

Open February 1 through October — Rush Hall Pond.

SPECIAL SEASONS

BOW AND ARROW AND SNAGGING — All waters open to angling are open to bow and arrow hunting and snagging of paddlefish and nongame fish.

SETLINE FISHING — Anglers may use up to six (6) unattended setlines with up to six (6) hooks per line in the following waters:

Open Entire Year — Yellowstone River below the mouth of the Clarks Fork, Little Bighorn River from its mouth to the mouth of Lodge Grass Creek, Bighorn River below Two Leggins diversion dam, and all streams in the Yellowstone River Drainage downstream from the mouth of the Bighorn River, not including Tongue River Reservoir.

—SPECIAL SEASONS CONTINUED—

Open December 1 through March of the following year— All lakes and reservoirs, except Broadview Pond and Bighorn Afterbay.

SPEAR FISHING — Persons swimming or submerged may take fish with the aid of rubber or spring-propelled spears as follows:

Nongame fish — All waters open to fishing.

Game fish — Tongue River Reservoir.

Open December 1 through March of the following year— Northern Pike, Walleye, Sauger, and nongame fish may be taken by spear or gig from all waters downstream from the mouth of the Bighorn River.

BOAT FISHING RESTRICTION

That portion of the Yellowstone River, (approximately one-quarter (¼) mile downstream from the Intake Diversion, as posted, shall be closed to fishing or snagging from boats for the period May 1–July 31, unless opened earlier by special order.

BAIT
(Use of Live Fish for Bait)

In addition to the use of sculpins (Cottus), which is allowed in all waters, the use of other nongame fish (except carp and goldfish) will be allowed in Tongue River Reservoir, Bighorn Lake and its Afterbay Reservoir; Johnson's Reservoir & Lindsay Reservoir in Dawson Co.; Tauck's Reservoir in Carter Co.; Sportsmen's Reservoir, Westrope's Reservoir, South Sandstone Reservoir & Baker Lake in Fallon Co.; Spotted Eagle Pond & Waddel's Pike Pond in Custer Co.; Coldwell's Reservoir in Garfield Co.; Jordan's Pike Pond in McCone Co.; Killen's Pike Pond & Zemple's Reservoir in Rosebud Co.; and all streams and rivers, except Pryor Creek, Sage Creek and Little Bighorn River upstream from the mouth of Lodge Grass Creek.

DAILY AND POSSESSION LIMITS

Unless otherwise specified, the following limits are both daily and possession limits.

Each fisherman may take all of the following limits.

1. All Trout, Salmon, Grayling and Whitefish — Ten (10) fish in any combination, except Bighorn River Drainage where the limit shall be ten (10) pounds and one (1) fish not to exceed ten (10) fish.
2. Sauger and Walleye — Ten (10) fish in any combination.

— LIMITS CONTINUED —

3. Northern Pike — Five (5) fish.
4. Paddlefish — Two (2) fish.

There is no limit on nongame fish, bass, catfish, burbot (ling), shovelnose sturgeon and pallid sturgeon.

NETS
(Use Of)

A screen or net not to exceed four (4) feet in length may be used to take sculpins (Cottus).

HOOP NETS — Hoop nets without wings or leads may be used to take nongame fish, catfish, burbot (ling), shovelnose sturgeon and pallid sturgeon in the Yellowstone River downstream from the mouth of Bighorn River (except for approximately two hundred (200) yards below all irrigation diversion dams). Each net must be clearly marked with the owner's name and address.

Minnow Seines and Traps — In all waters where the use of live fish and other than sculpins (Cottus) is allowed for bait, nongame species may be taken:

1. With a seine not to exceed twelve (12) feet in length and four (4) feet in width; or
2. With minnow traps not to exceed eighteen (18) inches in length and ten (10) inches in diameter.